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Lauran
PATENT
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Applicant	:	Tetsuya Mashiko et al.
Appl. No.	:	09/676,895
Filed	:	October 2, 2000
For	:	MULTIPLE VALVE ENGINE FOR WATERCRAFT
Examiner	:	E. Swinehart

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on

May 27, 2003
(Date)
William H. Shreve, Reg. No. 35,678

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

In response to the Office Action mailed January 27, 2003, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and comments in connection with the above-captioned application.

Please amend Claims 20 and 21 as follows:

1. (previously amended) A watercraft comprising an internal combustion engine and a hull defining a center plane extending generally vertically from bow to stern, the internal combustion engine comprising a cylinder body defining at least one cylinder bore, an axis of the cylinder bore slanting from the center plane, a piston reciprocating within the cylinder bore, a crankshaft, a connecting rod pivotally connecting the crankshaft with the piston, the piston having a pivot axis at which the connecting rod is pivotally coupled with the piston, the pivot axis generally lying within the center plane during at least one point of reciprocal travel of the piston within the cylinder bore, a cylinder head member closing an end of the cylinder bore and defining a combustion chamber with the cylinder bore and the piston, a first passage comprising at least two paths communicating with the combustion chamber, a first valve device comprising

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